

CLAIMS

[c1] A method in a computer system for generating a set of configured applications for a device, the method comprising:

providing an indication of a plurality of applications;

providing an indication of a hardware environment of the device;

for each application of the plurality of applications,

identifying binary code for the application;

retrieving a configuration definition for the application, the configuration definition defining configuration data for configuring the application when the application is used in various hardware environments; and

generating from the retrieved configuration definition configuration data for the application executing in the provided hardware environment; and

combining the identified binary code and generated configuration data to form the set of configured applications.

[c2] The method of claim 1 wherein the configuration definition defines a table of configuration values.

[c3] The method of claim 2 wherein the table contains a plurality of records with cells and the configuration definition specifies the value for each cell of each record.

[c4] The method of claim 3 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a script specified in the configuration definition.

[c5] The method of claim 3 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a function of a library specified in the configuration definition.

[c6] The method of claim 1 including setting global variables based on the provided hardware environment and wherein the global variables are used when generating the configuration data for each application.

[c7] The method of claim 1 including providing a property file that maps property identifiers to values and wherein the generating of the configuration data includes retrieving the value from the property file based on a property identifier specified in the configuration definition.

[c8] A computer-based method for ordering devices via the Internet, the method comprising:

providing one or more display pages through which a customer can place an order for a device, the order specifying a hardware environment of the device and specifying one or more applications to be delivered with the device;

receiving through the provided display pages an indication that an order has been placed; and

automatically generating configuration data for the one or more applications specified in the received order, the configuration data being generated based on the hardware environment specified in the received order.

- [c9] The method of claim 8 wherein the automatically generating of the configuration data generates the configuration data based on a configuration definition for each application, the configuration definition defining configuration data for configuring an application when the application is used in various hardware environments.
- [c10] The method of claim 9 wherein the configuration definition defines a table of configuration values.
- [c11] The method of claim 10 wherein the table contains a plurality of records with cells and the configuration definition specifies the value for each cell of each record.
- [c12] The method of claim 11 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a script specified in the configuration definition.
- [c13] The method of claim 11 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a function of a library specified in the configuration definition.
- [c14] The method of claim 9 including wherein the automatically generating includes setting global variables based on the specified hardware environment and wherein the global variables are used when generating the configuration data for each application.
- [c15] The method of claim 9 including providing a property file that maps property identifiers to values and wherein the generating of the configuration data includes retrieving the value from the property file based on a property identifier specified in the configuration definition.

[c16] The method of claim 8 including identifying binary code for each application specified in the received order.

[c17] The method of claim 16 including combining the identified binary code with configuration data to form a configured application.

[c18] The method of claim 16 wherein the identifying of binary code includes compiling binary code from source code after the order is placed.

[c19] The method of claim 8 including before an order is placed, ensuring that the order specifies a hardware environment with a combination of hardware that is compatible.

[c20] The method of claim 8 including before an order is placed, ensuring that the order specifies a combination of applications that is compatible.

[c21] The method of claim 8 including before an order is placed, ensuring that the order specifies applications that are compatible with the specified hardware environment.

[c22] A method for automatically generating a set of configured applications for a specified set of applications within a specified hardware environment, the method comprising:

receiving a specification of applications;

receiving a specification of a hardware environment;

generating executable application code for the specified applications;

generating configuration data for the specified applications based on the specified hardware environment; and

storing the generated executable application code and the generated configuration data in memory of the device.

[c23] The method of claim 22 wherein the specification of the applications and the specification of the hardware environment are received when a user places an order for a device that is to have the specified hardware environment and the applications.

[c24] The method of claim 23 wherein the order is placed via the Internet.

[c25] The method of claim 22 wherein the configuration data is generated based on a configuration definition.

[c26] The method of claim 25 wherein the configuration definition defines a table of configuration values.

[c27] The method of claim 26 wherein the table contains a plurality of records with cells and the configuration definition specifies the value for each cell of each record.

[c28] The method of claim 27 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a script specified in the configuration definition.

[c29] The method of claim 27 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a function of a library specified in the configuration definition.

[c30] The method of claim 25 including providing a property file that maps property identifiers to values and wherein the generating of the configuration data includes retrieving the value from the property file based on a property identifier specified in the configuration definition.

[c31] The method of claim 22 including setting global variables based on the specified hardware environment and wherein the global variables are used when generating the configuration data for the applications.

[c32] A computer-readable medium containing a data structure providing a configuration definition for an application, comprising:

for each of a plurality of tables,

a definition of a table that includes

an indication of a number of records in the table; and

an indication of how to populate a cell of a record wherein
the indication of how to populate specifies a
function to be invoked to generate the value for
populating the cell.

[c33] The computer-readable medium of claim 32 wherein the indication of how to populate a cell specifies a value for populating the cell.

[c34] The computer-readable medium of claim 32 wherein the indication of how to populate a cell specifies a script of the configuration definition to be invoked to generate the value for populating the cell.

[c35] The computer-readable medium of claim 32 wherein the configuration definition includes an indication of parameters to be passed to an invoked function.

[c36] The computer-readable medium of claim 32 wherein the indication of how to populate a cell specifies a property of a property file and the value associated with the property is the value for populating the cell.

[c37] A computer system for generating a set of configured applications for a device, comprising:

a component that identifies binary code for applications to be included with the device;

a data store with a configuration definition for applications, the configuration definition defining configuration data for configuring an application when the application is used in various hardware environments; and

a generation component that generates configuration data for applications based on the configuration definition in the data store in accordance with a specified hardware environment

wherein the identified binary code and generated configuration data form the set of configured applications.

[c38] The computer system of claim 37 wherein the configuration definition defines a table of configuration values.

[c39] The computer system of claim 38 wherein the table contains a plurality of records with cells and the configuration definition specifies the value for each cell of each record.

[c40] The computer system of claim 39 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a script specified in the configuration definition.

[c41] The computer system of claim 39 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a function of a library specified in the configuration definition.

[c42] The computer system of claim 37 including a property file that maps property identifiers to values and wherein the generation component retrieves the value from the property file based on a property identifier specified in the configuration definition.

[c43] A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system to generate configured applications in accordance with a hardware environment and applications specified in an order, by a method comprising:

providing via the Internet a display page for placing an order for a device, the order specifying a hardware environment of the device and specifying an application for the device;

receiving through the provided display page an indication that a customer has placed an order; and

automatically generating configuration data for the application specified in the received order, the configuration data being generated based on the hardware environment specified in the received order.

[c44] The computer-readable medium of claim 43 wherein the automatically generating of the configuration data generates the configuration data based on a configuration definition for the application, the configuration definition defining configuration data for configuring the application when the application is used in various hardware environments.

[c45] The computer-readable medium of claim 44 wherein the configuration definition defines a table of configuration values.

[c46] The computer-readable medium of claim 45 wherein the table contains a plurality of records with cells and the configuration definition specifies the value for each cell of each record.

[c47] The computer-readable medium of claim 46 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a script specified in the configuration definition.

[c48] The computer-readable medium of claim 46 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a function of a library specified in the configuration definition.

[c49] The computer-readable medium of claim 44 including providing a property file that maps property identifiers to values and wherein the generating of the configuration data includes retrieving the value from the property file based on a property identifier specified in the configuration definition.

[c50] The computer-readable medium of claim 43 including identifying binary code for each application specified in the received order.

[c51] The computer-readable medium of claim 50 including combining the identified binary code with the configuration data to form a configured application.

[c52] The computer-readable medium of claim 50 wherein the identifying binary code includes compiling binary code from source code after the order is received.

[c53] A computer system for generating configured applications for a device, comprising:

means for identifying binary code for applications to be included with the device;

means for storing configuration definitions for applications, the configuration definition defining configuration data for configuring an application when the application is used in various hardware environments; and

means for generating configuration data for applications based on the configuration definition in the data store in accordance with a specified hardware environment.

[c54] The computer system of claim 53 wherein the configuration definition defines a table of configuration values.

[c55] The computer system of claim 54 wherein the table contains a plurality of records with cells and the configuration definition specifies the value for each cell of each record.

[c56] The computer system of claim 55 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a script specified in the configuration definition.

[c57] The computer system of claim 55 wherein the value of a cell is calculated by invoking a function of a library specified in the configuration definition.

[c58] The computer system of claim 53 including a property file that maps property identifiers to values and wherein the means for generating the

configuration data includes means for retrieving the value from the property file based on a property identifier specified in the configuration definition.

[c59] A method in a client computer for ordering devices via the Internet, the method comprising:

receiving a web page through which an order for a device can be placed, the order specifying a hardware environment of the device and specifying an application to be delivered with the device; and

upon receiving a specification of an order from a customer, submitting the order to a server computer through the provided display pages

wherein configuration data is automatically generated for the application specified in the received order, the configuration data being generated based on the hardware environment specified in the received order and wherein the application and configuration data is loaded into the device.

[c60] The method of claim 59 wherein the order is submitted to a web server computer that directs a configuration server computer to generate the configuration data in accordance with the submitted order.